

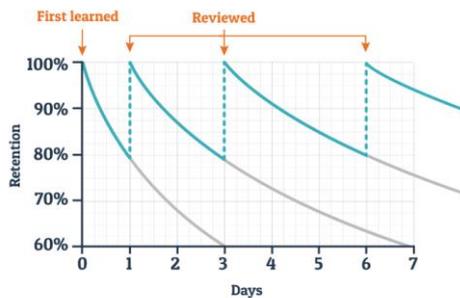
Dear Parents/Carers,

Assessment Week

Please find this letter as an 'explainer' of our assessment process as well as a refresher for parents of scholars from previous years.

The chart below outlines our method for ensuring that whatever we teach, scholars remember. In order for long term retention of content we must review it many times.

Typical Forgetting Curve for Newly Learned Information



As well as splitting different learning points into specific lessons, we have organised our entire curriculum into a set of 4 blocks per year, called Achievement Cycles (AC). These are not linked to holidays, but instead are always 7 week teaching blocks, followed by testing and the re-teaching. As we now near the end of the first AC, assessments are scheduled for next week in years 7-10.

The assessments scholars will sit are based solely upon what has been taught over that AC and so always give a very strong indication of how much they have retained and, most importantly, tell their teachers what they need to re-teach because they haven't learned enough about that topic.

The AC tests have been designed to test pure knowledge as well as ability to apply that knowledge in longer answers and are scored as a percentage. The test itself will be a mixture of rigorous multiple choice questions as well as slightly longer answers. When all of the assessments are in and marked, your child will receive a breakdown of all of their scores and you will receive a 1 page summary.

After this has been done, we will use all of the data we have and then make changes to scholar groups in order to ensure that all of our scholars are in the correct group. All scholars will take their AC Files from AC1 home with them this week to revise, these will need to be returned after re-teach week.

Yours sincerely



Damian Belshaw
Head of School